



News and Events in the 5th Grade  
October 17, 2011  
[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

#### Important Dates

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Week of Oct. 17 | Parent-Teacher Conferences |
| Week of Oct. 24 | Red Ribbon Week            |

#### Dear Families,

This is parent-teacher conference week. Conference schedules are posted on the 5th grade wiki. If you have not yet done so, please return your completed Preconference Parent form to your child's homeroom teacher prior to your conference. If you are delayed or need to cancel your conference, please call the office at (708) 524-3100.

This year Holmes School will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week from October 25th through October 28<sup>th</sup>. This nationwide campaign encourages individuals to build character so that they engage in a drug-free lifestyle. This year's theme is "I Am Drug Free." Our school's focus is to promote the importance of building character as a means to strengthen students' confidence to make good decisions and stay healthy.

#### Specials

**Art** - The Art Room blog is back! Please check out [www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://www.owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com). Here you can see what your student is learning about in Art, and see our artwork as well.

**Music** - We delayed the start of recorders to this week, because we did not have enough 5th graders who had brought recorders. We will definitely be starting recorders this week! Your child's grade will be affected if they do not have a recorder, so if you are new or have lost your recorder, the preferred method of payment is to [buy a recorder from the web store](#). If you cannot buy one from the web store, they are 5 dollars cash or check to District 97. Music link: <https://sites.google.com/a/op97.org/holmes-music/>

**Spanish** - Students started their new story, *El Muchacho Pastor*. They can read the story to someone for 10 extra puntos. You can find it at: [www.mpoleski.blogspot.com](http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com)

**Library** - Information can be found on the Holmes Library page on our school website, <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>.

**Physical Education** - Please see Mr. Williams' link ([www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com](http://www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com)) for information.



## Reading/Literature

### Unit Title/Theme

#### Taking a Stand

We will work on our end-of-unit thematic project this week. Students will be asked to pick one person from history who has stood up for what they believed in and changed the attitudes, beliefs or practices of our country through their efforts. This will be an entirely in-class project.

#### Enduring Understanding

Sometimes conditions or situations in life force people to take action.

### Essential Question

What makes people take action?

### Comprehension and Word Study

This week students will take the Treasures Unit 1 Assessment. Students will take a part of the assessment every day during the week.

## Language Arts/Writing

**Writing Assignment:** This week students will work on completing a draft of their persuasive essay. Their rough drafts will be due on Tuesday, October 25th. Students will have time on Tuesday to work with the netbooks and research facts to support their reasons/arguments.

**Grammar Focus:** We will not have a grammar lesson this week as we will only have writing class on Monday and Tuesday.

## Math

Graded Unit 2 tests will be returned to your child this week. Please review the test, **sign it**, and have your child bring the test back to school. This week, we will begin a very short unit covering division. We will review the traditional method (long division) and also learn the partial-quotients method for division. The unit test will be next Wednesday. This week's problem solving strategy is logical reasoning.

## Science

This week will be a short week for Science, due to parent-teacher conferences. We will finish up our investigation of the effect of acid rain on plant growth and also look at impurities in rainwater. Next week, we will have a unit test on pollution. The test will cover land, air and water pollution. We will review in class before the test. We will need some pizza boxes for an upcoming science activity. If you have a relatively clean pizza box, please have your child bring it to school.

## Social Studies

Last week we incorporated current events into our discussion of people who changed history with a discussion of Steve Jobs. This week, students will choose a historical figure to research with an emphasis on people who have made positive contributions. We'll also continue our focus on European exploration to America and early settlements.

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Visit us at:

<http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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